

***NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE
PRODUCT/SERVICE DESCRIPTION DOCUMENT (PDD)
TYPE: Experimental Product
DATE: August 13, 2003***

8- TO 14-DAY HIGHEST MINIMUM HEAT INDEX PREDICTION
(CONTIGUOUS U.S.)

Part 1 - Mission Connection

1. Product/Service Description:

The Climate Prediction Center (CPC) is issuing a daily experimental 8- to 14-day highest nighttime heat index outlook for the contiguous U.S. CPC predicts the heat index value for the night in the outlook period with highest heat index. CPC, however, does not predict which night would have the highest heat index for any location.

2. Purpose/Intended Use:

This product is intended for planning for potential extreme heat exposure that could cause significant health risks, especially for a number of the most vulnerable cities. Since a significant health risk factor during heat events is the cumulative effect from warm and/or humid nights, CPC has been investigating possible outlook products incorporating this factor for use by local officials.

3. Audience:

The product is for use by health officials and local emergency managers.

4. Presentation Format:

CPC presents the outlooks charts on the CPC web site.

5. Feedback Method:

Go to <http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/NWS-feedback-form.html>

Experimental feedback period through October 31, 2003.

Part 2 - Technical

1. Format and Science Basis:

For the valid 8- to 14-day period, CPC predicts highest nighttime heat index values (in Fahrenheit) at about 200 forecast points on a map of the conterminous U.S., CPC also draws contours on the map with 5 degree Fahrenheit intervals in five degree multiples (e.g. 60 °F, 65 °F, 70 °F, 75 °F, etc).

2. Availability:

These are scheduled products issued daily around 3:00 p.m. Eastern Local Time from May 1 through September 30. CPC does not issue updates or amendments. They will issue corrections as needed. They are issued on the CPC web site at the following URL:

http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/products/predictions/hi_814_himin.html.

3. Additional Information:

- Valid Time: The valid time is the 8- to 14-day period after issuance.
- Product Expiration Time: The predictions expire 24 hours later with issuance of the next 8- to 14-Day predictions.
- Creation Software: CPC uses the General Meteorological Package (GEMPAK) software as an input into National Center Advanced Weather Interactive Processing System (NAWIPS).